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Richmond College Messenger.

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NO. 2.

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“Thy Will Be Done.”

When all my days were bright, and life
With radiant joy and hope was rife ;
And all I asked, and all I sought,
As if on angel wing was brought :
How easy then Thy power to own,
And cheerful say, “Thy will be done.”

But—when Thy hand pressed on me sore,
With weight I never felt before ;
When sorrow and affliction came,
And Death brought in a fearful claim,
And took my best and dearest one,
I could not say, “Thy will be done.”

’Tis hard to think that good can spring
From such an evil, bitter thing ;
’Tis hard to think that it can be

The hand of *Love* thus laid on me ;
And hard to see my hopes o’erthrown,
And yet to say, “Thy will be done.”

Thy heavenly grace Thou must impart,
Thy Spirit breathe upon this heart,
And every quivering pulse must thrill
With Thy soft whisper, “Peace, be still,”
Ere I can turn each weary moan
Into the words, “Thy will be done.”

I can but bring to Thee my grief,
And cry, “Lord, help mine unbelief !”
I can but at Thy footstool stay
’Till Thou shalt teach my heart to say,
With upward glance, and childlike tone,
And patient trust, “Thy will be done.”

The ancient city of Tarsus, where the Apostle Paul was born, has a railroad. British capitalists are constructing a railway in Asia Minor, the first section of which, from Mersina to Tarsus, has just been officially inaugurated. The opening of the road was made the occasion of a grand jubilee, in which the local officials

heartily joined. A dozen sheep were sacrificed, there were religious benedictions, speeches, and then a free excursion to the notabilities. Some Arab dignitaries, however, would not trust their lives on the train, saying they would wait till they saw how the extraordinary English contrivance worked.

[Oration delivered at the reunion of the Philologian Society, by W. A. BORUM.]

Probabilities vs. Possibilities.

The causes of success and failure in life are in one sense of the word as varied as there are human beings in the world. It is almost impossible to formulate rules how in each case the one may be attained and the other obviated.

The idea that the world owes every man a living is prevalent among men, and vast numbers hold to this claim for support, notwithstanding the infrequency and uncertainty of its dividends.

The Caucasian compared with other races may possess the notable characteristic that unlike the others looking to the past and to the present, *it* looks to the future. But I am convinced that if the statement is made general, the view taken by the masses is entirely *objective*. That is to say, the truths and realities to which they look forward shall result from the nature and relation of things. That they conceive plans that shall guide them for the present to the attainment of purposes in the future, cannot be affirmed; and that they are content with present inconveniences and are willing *now* to struggle for what *may be* an adequate reward *in time to come*, is a characteristic no race has ever known. And if this distinctive quality which we claim as ours is purely objective, as I hold it is, as a general thing, it is detrimental to all our interests.

Looking into the future at what may happen by the nature of things, relieves one of responsibility for subjective action. He is made a passive means rather than an active agent in whatever he becomes,

while he lives. This will carry him into a drift, floating along indefinitely, and just whatever opportunities his surroundings happen to afford him, he will take hold of, and nine chances in ten his life is a failure.

This idea has suggested to me this theme for discussion: *Probabilities vs. Possibilities*.

For our hypothesis we accept with some modification Lord Bacon's theory, that "The mould of every man's fortune is in his own hands," or as Pseudo-Sallust has it, "Every one is the architect of his own fortune." But this denies Robert Owen's maxim, that "Man is a creature of circumstances"; for as Hamlet said, "If circumstances lead me I will find where truth is hid"; and so may gigantic brains be dependent upon these conditions before they find their way into the secret apartments of honor and fame.

Not every man whose name is absent from history's record has been kept hidden and unknown because he was an inferior architect of his fortune and floated carelessly upon the tide of probability. Circumstances did not lead him to hidden treasures, ambitious though for honest fame, but finding none he lived unblemished and died unknown.

Nor can we accredit to sagacity, wit and enterprise the achievements of every man whose memory is loved, whose fame is honored, and whose name is sung. We will honor the great men for their greatness, and sing praises to the magna-

nimity of their souls and the purity of their hearts—O corruption, that would rob their memory of its glory! But, patriots, honored dead, it cannot be sung that you were the architects of your greatness; the circumstances that introduced you to public life and forced you into prominence, forbid. Had you been overlooked and another been chosen, your fame might now be his, and like his now your name instead would be forgotten. Rather than the pages that make the nation's record, the sod would contain your virtues.

Thus we modify our hypothesis, and make man's fortune dependent upon his own architecture, but governed by external operations which he cannot control.

There is no such thing as chance making a man's life great. "Chance is a word void of sense; nothing can exist without a cause." But what is there upon which more dependence and hope is placed by men? Still he has yet to live who can testify to the worthiness of the trust.

"Chance will not do the work—chance
sends the breeze,
But if the pilot slumber at the helm
The very wind that wafts us toward the
port
May dash us on the shelves. The steers-
man's part
Is vigilance, blow it rough or smooth."

Statesmen, warriors, heroes, favored by the breeze of happy circumstance, proved vigilant steersmen; they did not drift, but "steered their bark to Erin's Isle, for Erin was their home."

Not content to move in the beaten line of travel, with only the probabilities of life to enjoy, they aspired to a nobler career, seeking possibilities attendant upon a life of aim and effort; and now the

statue of their memories stands towering over the heads of the masses.

Immortal and illustrious heroes, we revere your memory; your lives are examples to our growing years; your attainments are stimulants to nurture our ambition; your monuments, more lasting than bronze, are such legacies as we would leave our posterity.

Victims of probability are many. The world is overwhelmingly made up of them. They crowd our cities and the woods are full. Half-handed, narrow-minded, short-sighted, bigoted, and fanatical—some lawyers, doctors, preachers, merchants, farmers, "knights of labor," fools, convicts, and paupers.

They have been living in the world since its creation without adding one mite to its prosperity and progress. They have lived and died—lived and died without giving their posterity an opportunity to identify "their foot-prints in the sand." Their existence has been of indefinite action and aim. Early in life their carelessness of purpose swept them into the casual drift of "don't care," and like a chip floating upon the tide, they have been lost from sight.

Masters of possibility are like "angel visits." There is just here and there a dot upon the surface of this revolving globe that marks the last resting place of their bones. Their lives are written and read with the literature of all ages and nations; their achievements are spread upon history's record; and the fact that they have lived in this world can never be forgotten.

The probable and the possible are before us. The probable seems to be ours by natural inheritance, and it will come upon us unless we protest. The possible

we can attain by the liberal exercise of those virtues which constitute a true character. For "the world's a theatre, the earth a stage, which God and Nature do with actors fill." It is for us to choose a part not dwarfed and cramped that we cannot grow, but one that becomes more and more prominent as the play progresses, with each shifting scene wearing a habit more sparkling and attractive than the last, and finally when we must bid our adieu, leave some impressions for good behind us.

It takes a purpose and an aim in life for one to make his existence here, felt among men. Here is the difference between the probable and the possible. The life of the one is a fire at random, the other aims at a mark and hits the centre as nearly as he can. It has been estimated that in battle among common soldiers, one bullet in four thousand does execution. In the war between France and Germany in 1870 and 1871, one million Germans came into France, and there were only one hundred thousand Frenchmen killed. Therefore nine Germans in ten fired away for seven months without killing a man, and the tenth only fired one effectual shot.

The man who fires without an aim
Can never hope to bag his game.

The earlier in life a young man chooses his occupation, and determines what his life's work shall be, the greater advantage he will have in prosecuting his purpose. Sometimes his purpose can become no clearer to him than that he shall follow a profession, he can't decide which one; or if a merchant, he does not exactly know whether he will deal in dry goods, hardware, or groceries.

It is best for him to be specific if he

can, but if he cannot, then let him build up on the general, conforming his habits and his likings to it, resolved to be, if anything, the best. It will keep him from drifting, one day a lawyer, next a farmer, then a mechanic, then nothing, or anything that *turns up*.

The great men who have lived before us never waited for "something to turn up." And if we go to waiting we will find ourselves gray-haired and poor before we see the *spontaneous inversion*. We must turn things up ourselves if we want any thing marvelous to happen to our credit.

John C. Calhoun was ridiculed by his fellow-students at Yale for applying himself so closely to his studies. He made them laugh when he said, "I am forced to make the most of my time that I may acquit myself creditably when I am in Congress; for I assure you if I were not satisfied of my ability to reach Congress in three years I would leave college." And at 27 years of age he was a member of that body, at 34 he was Secretary of War, and at 40 was Vice-President of the United States. He did not wait to see something turn up, but at an early day in life made his resolves and formed his purposes to be something while he lived.

O that we might get rid of that indefinite sort of idea, what time is going to do for us if we will just wait. We are still clinging to that old, childish fancy that the future is a great store-house in which there is hidden away for us a wonderful amount of glory, and some day we will enjoy it. This idle dreaming is folly, and the dreamer's doom is disappointment. Time is no great transforming artist that takes the conception of one's fertile im-

agination and reproduces it into a natural career. Let us have a definite end in view for our living, and have our aim set upon it, determined that "as we journey up the hill of life we will meet no friend."

Thus avoiding the probabilities we might wander into, and striving towards the possibilities we may attain, there are weaknesses we must overcome and virtues we must cultivate before we can accomplish the difficult task—be sure first of all, *it is difficult*.

Weaknesses that we are heir to have been keeping others back; and one of the feeblest of these, than which I know of none more detrimental, is *indolence*. It will smother and deaden any virtue in a man's soul. For "the tree in which the sap is stagnant, remains fruitless."

How easily under its influence can we cease all effort and await developments. When there is a possible prize before us which by dint of labor we may have a fairly good prospect to win, how particularly we think of the *work* it will take even to compete for it; and we let the opportunity slip from our hands.

To live for aught we must overcome indolence, for "*laziness* travels so slowly, *poverty* soon overtakes him"; remembering,

"The heights by great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight;
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night."

Franklin, in speaking of his success in life, said: "I was indebted for my printing house; I had a young family coming on to be educated; and I had two competitors to contend with for business who were established in the place before me. My circumstances, however, grew daily

easier. . . . My father having among his instructions to me when a boy frequently repeated a proverb of Solomon: 'Seest thou a man diligent in his business? He shall stand before kings,' I thence considered *industry* as a means of obtaining wealth and distinction, which encouraged me, though I did not think that I should ever literally stand before kings; which, however, has since happened, for I have stood before five, and even had the honor of dining with one—the King of Denmark."

"Labor is discovered to be the grand conquerer, enriching and building up nations more surely than the proudest battles." Industry is a virtue that can be cultivated and acquired, and "there is no art nor science it cannot attain to." What is necessary, is to have a stimulus of the heart to overcome the tiredness of the body. Oh that the possibilities of life, stretching out as beautiful as sunbeams before us, might be that stimulus! but alas, few hearts are responsive to the radiant gleams. The unambitious sloth has not his nobler impulses aroused by a thrilling narrative of biography. It pictures no possibilities to him. His soul is not stirred to new and determined purposes.

The stimulus that we need is a *holy ambition* to rise higher and higher as we live, to be an honor to our country, and an example to our generation. But ambition is such an ambiguous trait, I must be careful how I advocate it. It is sometimes called, without qualification, "the original of vices, a gilded misery, a secret poison," and these are epithets not strong enough to brand that covetous, grasping, gluttonous spirit that incites some men to action. Milton ascribes such a temper to the Fallen Angel, when he quotes him

as saying, "Here may we reign secure; and in my choice to reign is worth ambition, though in hell." Such a spirit is vicious, and miscreants walk the earth to-day imbued with it. Ambition like this is not what we want. That insatiable thirst for gain and reputation however they may come; that ambition like the sea that swallows all the rivers and is no fuller; or like the man who journeys eastward to the place where the sun seems in rising to touch and be joined to the earth, in hope to arrive within reach of the same, always going forward but not coming nearer to his desire, are selfish and despicable. If this is your ambition I charge thee, fling it away, by that sin the angels fell. "Flee from it as the most accursed, blood-sucking vampire that ever arose from the caverns of hell."

But there is a pure, a noble aspiration of the soul which we may well afford to cherish. Carlisle says, "No man is born without ambitious, worldly desires," and Cicero says, "The noblest spirit is most strongly attracted by the love of glory." We must purify ourselves of such corruption, and cherish only the virtue, through which "all may have, if they dare try, a glorious life or grave."

Is it questionable whether or not there can be a virtuous ambition? Not to my mind, for never did the sweep of probability carry men to the dizzy heights of fame some have reached—men who have soared to the very pinnacle of earthly glory.

Honorably they reached forth after possibilities that lay before them; with motives pure and righteous, they aspired to become great for their country's good.

When Daniel Webster decided to

study law, and follow it as a profession, a friend advised him to give up the idea because there were so many lawyers. He replied, "There is room at the top." Was there anything vicious in that?

Abraham Lincoln was the son of a poor farmer in Indiana. He worked all day on the farm and read at night, walking to a friend's house ten miles away to borrow his books. Was his ambition "a gilded misery"? Hundreds of such cases might be cited; and wouldn't it show that there is a pure and a commendable phase to ambition?

Ambition like this is what we need to make us something more than martyrs to probability, to encourage and incite us rather than that we should be allowed to pause and drowse until carried a few feet further by the next flood-tide.

Now with industry and ambition, there is one more thing to be considered of vital consequence to those who would make up their minds to get out of the drift of probability, and that is *perseverance*. Bulwer says, "In the lexicon of youth, which fate preserves for a bright manhood, there is no such word as—fail."

"Attempt the end and never stand to doubt; Nothing's so hard but search will find it out."

The definition of genius has been said to be *patience*, and when we consider what patience has accomplished in this world, we hardly recognize an exaggeration. "There is nothing that succeeds like success," and there are few things that can so discourage one, and make one lag, as failure. But history can testify that the greatest achievements ever made, were made by perseverance over successive failures.

Few writers have ever attained greater

distinction than Lord Lytton. His first work, a poetical production, "Weeds and Wild Flowers," was an awful failure; his second, "Falkland," proved also a failure. Might he not have been discouraged—but he persevered; and with the production of "Pelham," the remainder of his life was a succession of triumphs.

Disraeli's experience was similar. His first productions were laughed at, but he worked on, and his "Coningsby" and "Sybil" proved the sterling stuff of which he was made. As an orator his first appearance in the House of Commons was a failure, every sentence was hailed with laughter, but the time did come when Lord Beaconsfield held the attention of the first assembly of gentlemen in the world, and finally became the favored Prime Minister of Queen Victoria.

The Chinese tell of one of their countrymen, a student, disheartened by the difficulties of his way, threw down his book in despair. Walking along the street he saw a woman rubbing a crowbar on a stone. She told him she wanted a needle and thought she would rub the crowbar down until it became small enough. Pro-

voked by this example of patience to try again, he resumed his studies, and became one of the three foremost scholars in the Empire.

Colton says, "that policy which can only strike when the iron is hot, will be overcome by that perseverance which can make the iron hot by striking." When we have this determination, our perpetual pushing can put any difficulty behind us.

Oh, that we might cultivate the virtue that we in life may acquit ourselves like men.

The tide of probability has no doubt brought many of us to where we are now without effort or resistance on our part. If we have never had an aim in life, let us have one from now, let us strive for the possibilities in our respective futures—the ports we must *steer* into. With purity for our compass, and discretion for our helm, and a righteous ambition our propeller, forward let us sail over the waters of life, not moved by tide or opposed by gale. And if adversity befall, and our craft *must* sink, may it ever be said that she foundered with her bow pointing to the goal.

Universal Suffrage.

I am a firm believer in the maxim of Henry, that the best way of judging the future is by the past, and judging by the past twenty years we are forced to the conclusion that universal suffrage has aimed the most deadly blow at the republican institutions of America, and if not speedily arrested, will prove the in-

evitable destruction of the nation's freedom.

The vital principles of a republican government are the right to hold and control property, with a ballot-box unpolluted and untainted by bribery and corruption. These are the corner-stones and foundation of free institutions in a

civil government, and by harboring and protecting or demolishing and destroying them, lies the propagation or destruction of our government.

As the foundation is, so shall the building be, applies as well to political fabrics as to human destiny.

The solid principles and pristine purity upon which the fathers of the Union based the safety and perpetuity of the States have been basely abused and trampled under foot by their degraded offspring, who, desiring to fetter in bonds of brass their sister States of the South, thundered forth against the country, but chiefly for the benefit of their southern neighbors, their damnable and iniquitous decrees in the shape of the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the Federal Constitution.

The battle for the passage of the amendment bills was fought fiercely, hilt to hilt, between the opposers of the bills, who represented the patriotism and true statesmanship of an insulted and bleeding country, against the demagoguery and pettifoggery of base and villainous representatives, who sought nothing more eagerly than the gratification of selfish ends to the prejudice of the nation's good.

The amendments to the Constitution granting and pledging universal suffrage have been pernicious not only to our home government, but also to our reputation abroad. As a war measure they were born of strife, and were fanned into active being by party faction and hatred, which marked the unhallowed days of reconstruction.

These amendments to the Constitution granting universal suffrage are directly in conflict with the maxim of the political economist, that the "right to exercise the

privilege of the ballot is based upon the intelligence of the trustee," but we now place the ballot-box in the hands of beings with an intelligence scarcely removed above the brute creation, illiterate, vile, base, and degraded, who are led to the polls, as sheep to the slaughter, totally blind and indifferent to their responsibilities and actions.

The true purpose for which government is instituted is for the welfare of the nation, and it is for the nation to decide whether the prosperity of the country is further promoted by the suffrage of the many or the few. There can be no doubt that the integrity of American free institutions and civil government should not be entrusted for one moment to the accumulated mass of depravity and illiteracy which infect the ballot-box of the country. The cry is raised throughout the North of the bad government of the South and her eternal remembrance of the war. Yes, she will hold it in bitter memory so long as the degraded Hottentot stands on an equal footing with the intelligent Caucasian in the legislative functions of the South. Yes, so long as the enlightenment of the country is swamped and obliterated by the free suffrage of the skum of creation of this country and of foreigners flooding to it.

Those who have never lived in Southwest Virginia can entertain no idea of the illiteracy of the negro population in Virginia. A single instance which came under my knowledge will illustrate to a limited extent their condition. During the last presidential campaign in a certain town in Southwest Virginia, the negroes, imbibing the political animosity and excitement of the campaign, forthwith raised among themselves a liberal sub-

scription, and ordered a handsome Blaine and Logan flag from Philadelphia. When the flag arrived, a time was fixed upon for its erection. On the appointed day the negro population from throughout the county assembled to have a grand jubilee at the hoisting of the banner.

But it so happened that the manufacturers by mistake sent a Cleveland and Hendricks flag instead of the one ordered. So great was the ignorance and illiteracy of the assembled mass of negroes that they hoisted that Democratic flag with wild shouts and hurrahs, and let it remain standing without detecting the fraud till the campaign was over. If this state of affairs exist in Virginia, the leading educational State of the South, how is it in the black district of the Gulf States?

At the close of the war we find the South in sackcloth and ashes. Her noblest sons lie dead on the battle-fields of Virginia; her property confiscated; her society bound by the iron-clad oath; and the land pregnant with ruin. In the midst of general desolation and ruin, when the supreme desire of the South was to forget the past and go back into the Union on equal terms with her sister States, the dark raven of unconstitutionality was loosed by the inimical North in the shape of amendments to the Constitution to prey relentlessly upon the dead carcass of the South. If the war was unfortunate, the days of reconstruction were more unfortunate still, for then it was society received its greatest shock, and the fundamental principles of the republic their most mortal wound by the stroke at the Constitution, granting suffrage, citizenship, and emoluments, in legislative, executive, and judicial departments to the

illiterate and the vile. The unfortunate African assumed the office of citizenship in all the ignorance and depravity incident to an emancipated slave; as to government, he had not the least thought or desire, but maddened by his sudden fortune, (or misfortune, as it should be termed,) buried beneath the overwhelming sea of liberty which burst so suddenly and unexpectedly upon him, his false theory of the word led him to idle away his time, and spend for unnecessary wants the substance which was generally allotted him by his master, when emancipated, to feed his hungry offspring and provide for future exigencies. Caring for nothing but his daily food—lazy, profligate and wretched,—the Southern African was the prey of the Northern vulture, who, having despoiled the remnants of Southern chivalry, used to their will this horde of black superstition and ignorance to corrupt and defile the once pure ballot-box of the South.

The suffrage of the ignorant negro has virtually made the South a province dependent for prosperity upon the magnanimity of the North; for Northern influence and money control the negro element in the South, and the negro is a potent factor in the civil government. For twenty years the negroes of the South have cast their ballots for they know not what, sometimes terrified at the point of the bayonet, sometimes bribed by the dollar of the Northern speculator, but oftener led like sheep to the polls, pushed forward by northern intrigue and trickery. Negro votes can be bought in the South at the office of the northern bribery broker, at 25 cents a head, to enact laws adverse to the best interests

of the section and in favor of northern monopolists.

'Twas by means of the southern negro that the will of the nation was perverted in 1875-'76 in the gross and shameful substitution of the president-elect for a man who was defeated by the voice of the American people at the polls, to the shame and dishonor of the nation's laws. This is the effect that the negro exerts on society and government, and it will always exist, until the iron hand of the law banishes universal suffrage from the country, as pernicious and opposed to the principles of a republican government.

Under the principle of universal suffrage the property of the land-holders is virtually beyond their control. It is not the voice of the tax-payers and property-holders that is heard in our legislative halls, but our representatives are dependent for election upon the ignorance of the masses, who don't know right from wrong in legislative affairs, but lean on some bulldozer or political demagogue, whose commands they follow, and whose action and words they implicitly indorse. As property which is beyond one's control is *re vera* confiscated, so the estates of property-holders where universal suffrage exists, and ignorance and poverty abound, is also confiscated, and in the hands of and under the legislation of ignorant masses.

In a social aspect it is also dangerous in its effects. It removes from the minds

of the rising generation the horrors of bribery, corruption, and fraud, which always follow in its train, and are always a natural outgrowth from it. When society sees that the government harbors and protects such principles as these, it speedily obtains them by contagion; fosters and cherishes them in its own bosom until the disease is universal.

It is evident in my mind that an illiterate, worthless man, destitute of property and principle, low and unrefined, is one who is not identified with any interest of the country, and should be denied the right of franchise.

There should be some qualification which should decide who are entitled to a voice in the government. As to what it should be, has always been a difficult question for political economists to decide. Some favor a qualification based upon enlightenment; some, one of enlightenment and property, jointly; whilst others favor a property qualification solely. The latter would be most expedient in our country. Let the qualification for voting be limited to those who possess property, real or personal, at a value below which all are disfranchised. This would elevate property to the position which it merits in the eyes of the public and the law, and it would be an incentive to its acquisition by the disfranchised, who would aspire to take their places among legal and enfranchised citizens.

S.

The losses by fire throughout the United States and Canada during the month of August are placed at \$13,000,000.

Of the 365 universities and colleges

in the United States, there are about 175 that publish papers, and there are about 190 papers published, of which the *Brunonian*, founded in 1826, is the oldest.

The Man of One Idea.

The peculiarity which marks the character of some men might be called "one-ideaism." This mark is not so much a part of their constitution as the result of habits of thought. Men of one idea may be grouped into two grand divisions, who are alike in the single peculiarity of being powerfully effected by one idea, but in other respects are very dissimilar, especially in the manner they employ their idea.

The first of these classes consists of those in whom the one idea, if not positively the only one he possesses, is at least the only one that strongly marks the character of the man, and which so occupies his mental sight that he is blind to every other idea, small or great. We find men of this class in almost every vocation of life. The term used above is sometimes convertible with "hobbyism," a term, I believe, which usage sanctions. There are two extremes that are difficult for some people to avoid. One is falling in with and conforming to the views of other men, to the exclusion of that self-independence which ought to character a vigorous mind; the other is taking to one's self too much independence of thought, rejecting or opposing the views and observations of men capable of knowing the truth. The former course is not commendable, the latter often leads to the "riding of a hobby." It is not a rare thing to find a physician who abandons every method of medical treatment except the one which some accident has made him believe is the only good method, forgetting the possibility that the union of some good things of both the homœ-

pathic and allopathic might form a method better than either.

There is another phase of this characteristic manifested by men of literary pursuits. There are men who think about one thing, talk about that one thing, and if they have occasion to write on any subject, they think nothing so deserving of public attention as their favorite "hobby." We knew a young man in college who was so much excited on a certain subject that it was always his theme in conversation, and if he were called upon for a public address, he was sure to drift toward his one idea. Of six or seven articles which he wrote for the college journal, all were only different divisions of the same topic; and on commencement day it was quite a surprise to learn that he still had not exhausted his researches on this subject by its being announced as the theme of his graduating oration. He treated his subject so well that one could not help thinking how much his associates had missed by not hearing something from him on a few of the many other important topics of the day. No doubt the world fails to get much information by its being kept back in the minds of wise men that they may have more time to teach some one thing which *they* think most important.

In politics some men become so enthusiastic in the defence of their own party or faction, or perhaps some peculiar sentiment of their party, that they pronounce a curse upon every man who does not think as they do; and when the truth is known, doubtless, the peculiarity of their party to which they are so much

attached is the weakest doctrine of the party.

In religion the one-idea man becomes so wedded to a particular, favorite idea, or system of things, that he entirely overlooks other, and not less important, ideas or plans by which his favorite one might be modified, and perhaps rendered far more effectual. It is this class of men to which Christianity is indebted for many of the schisms and disunions which have marked its progress.

There is a class of one-idea men who are wholly praiseworthy; indeed, this class is composed of the most noble of men. It consists of those noble characters who have one central, great purpose, to which every other idea is subordinated, yet left at liberty to revolve, each in its respective sphere, around this central idea, in perfect harmony.

It is to this class of men that the world is indebted for her grandest achievements, and it is this class whose names stand

out most prominent in the world's history. It was to this class that our own Washington belonged, and his career is a magnificent instance of the nice balancing of all others around one central idea; and the success of this hero of liberty shows what a man can do, who makes one thing his purpose and everything else to conduce to its accomplishment. In the history of John Howard, Peter Cooper, and Alexander H. Stephens as philanthropists, this system of centralizing thoughts and actions for the accomplishment of any ultimate good, is clearly set forth. The world will never know how much was effected by the uncompromising hostility of John Knox and Martin Luther against popery, yet it does know that their one thought was to relieve men from the yoke of superstition and spiritual bondage. All honor is due to the man who has but one purpose in life, if it be a high one, and he does not make it a "hobby."

PROTIUS.

The New South.

Men have added brightness to the pages of their country's history, and shed undimmed lustre on her future greatness. The name Xerxes brings back the gorgeous display of Persian wealth; Pericles, Themistocles, and Epaminondas are names cherished in Grecian history, while at the name of Napoleon, every French heart thrills with emotion and pride, and France herself seems to vibrate with responsive chords. With no less pride and admiration shall the voice of American history declare to future generations the rise and progress of the Southern Empire. She has risen from her ruins and ashes

like Mt. Olympus, while Pride, Industry, and Truth, are the goddesses of as fair an assembly as the one over which Jupiter himself ruled with all the powers of Heaven and Earth.

The veil has been dragged over her past, the remembrance of her once gloomy days have been forgotten, and to-day she comes forward as one of the most potent powers in the government of the Union. The appellation of "Solid South" has often been derisively alluded to by men of the North, and truly can we say to-day that she is still solid as ever; not solid upon questions which only pertain to her

welfare, but upon questions that pertain to the good of the Union. She has broken the chains of lethargy which have been environing her; the obstacles which have impeded her road to success have been removed, and to-day she stands among the foremost countries both in her commercial and industrial pursuits.

What changes does the traveller note as he passes over her rich and fertile country; through her forests filled with timber, and over her fields of waving grain? He sees here and there a village where once existed a barren plain; he sees cities of commercial enterprise, while factories, and foundries are seen on every side. What does he judge from this? He judges that the South is progressing, and that too long tired of paying big prices for goods from other places, she sees that she is capable of her own manufactories; not only supplying herself with her own products, but ships them to all nations of the earth. Go to the larger cities of the South and there see what enterprise and pluck are doing. We see factories with their thousands of spindles making cloth not only to be used at home, but to be sent away and used abroad. The large tracts of cotton fields, white and lovely as the flakes of snow, do not have to be gathered and sent away, but right at home are they converted into cloth. Why should the South not make progress? Is she not favored with the most delightful climate?

Her shores, bathed by the gentle waters of the Gulf Stream, are warmed from their chilly state, while the air is redolent with the dew-laden zephyrs from the orange-groves of her most southern shore.

The "Lone Star" State glitters more brilliantly than ever as the "Empire

State" of the South, and emigrants settling upon her soil, find homes for themselves with happiness and prosperity as the concomitants of their labors. But is it only commercially that the South is progressing, or rather is she not advancing on all sides?

Education has taken deep root among her citizens, and to-day her colleges and universities rank among the best in the Union.

Frequent allusions have been made by northern men to the standard of our southern colleges, drawing upon their fertile imagination for a good many of the proofs they assert. Why is this? It is from the fact that they are ignorant of the rise of the South and imagine her people to be nothing more than a barbaric horde roaming around in the fields of ignorance. It is true that most southern colleges are not equal to the northern, for they have not the wealth of Cræsus to lavish upon its schools, but the standard of some of our universities will compare favorably with any in our land. But she is making progress in the cause of education, and if she continues to advance as she is doing she will rank among the foremost in that cause. Could the immortal spirit of Jefferson rise from his grave he could look upon no more befitting monument of his greatness than the University of Virginia.

The South is not standing still, and the cause of education is advancing along with the progress of its other enterprises. No part of the Union can be prouder of her past record and her men than the South.

We boast not of her history, her men and her deeds. She needs no encomium

from us. Her faithfulness and loyalty to the Union has ever characterized her when on the side of duty and justice; and it will ever characterize her until she ceases to be. Wherever and in whatever clime any citizen of hers may be, he hails the name of the Union with joy and de-

light, and cries aloud the glad pæan to his country's flag:

"Bright flag, at yonder tapering mast,
Fling out your field of azure blue!
Let star and stripe be westward cast,
And point as freedom's eagle flew!
Stream home, oh! lithe and quivering spars!
Point home my country's flag of stars."

YOR.

Monuments Idealized.

Many have been the monuments and pyramids, with their various significations, which have proudly dotted old earth. Histories, both biographical and narrative, have been written in book-form. But the histories of the most prominent and conspicuous men of earth, and the greatest events, have been written in monumental and pyramidal type. And these columns around which national history clusters, strongest affections gather, and brightest memories kindle, continue to flash the blazing glories of their great antetypes down through the dim vista of ages; their sacred memories to fade away, only when they have touched the boundary line which divides time from eternity.

Travel back, if you please, in your imagination to ancient Egypt, and there behold her many magnificent pyramids, as they lift their lofty heads into the ethereal region, and bathe their majestic brows in the pure living light of the sky.

Survey the first great pyramid of Ghizeh—the largest and most massive building which the world contains.

Look across its side, the length of which is seven hundred and sixty-four feet. Then march around its base, covering an area of more than thirteen acres of land. Then let your eyes penetrate up-

ward, to the distance of four hundred and eighty-feet, catching a glimpse of the lofty pinnacle, as it flashes in the bright rays of the glittering sun-beams, and speaks out to the world in voice articulate.

Or, coming back to our own beloved America, to our own happy State, to our own pleasant cities, to our own quiet cemeteries, behold the monument which marks the resting place of the sleeping dust of the Confederates who fought in gray. See it there, as it stands sentinel over the graves of the sleeping dead: See it as the clasping tendrils of the vines twine their graceful foliage around it, encircling it in their loving embrace. And as you march around it in silent wonder, thinking of the philanthropic hearts that beat, and the patriotic blood that flowed, the whispering breath of an angel's voice, under the mellow glow of dying day, seems to awe the heart into deep reverence. And then the peaceful musings of the soul is broken, by a signal voice from the quiet graves, as it goes trembling through the conscience, saying, "Ye living men as ye pass by, as ye are now, so once was I; as I am now so you shall be, prepare for death and follow me."

Or turning northward, march up to

the capital of the United States, and there behold that grand and magnificent monument, as it rises to the height of five hundred and fifty-five feet, erected at a cost of \$1,130,000. There stand amid the mellow rays of the full-orbed queen of night, while the stars of glory in resplendent form and radiant hosts, are marshalled around the midnight throne, and spread out like golden dust to the farthest extent of vision, singing songs of sweet music as they roll in their spheres, and under the intermingling beauties of the over-arching heavens, gaze with enraptured soul upon the stateliest monument the world has ever known.

And as you thus gaze upon it, remember that it was erected, only as a prominence from which to view that monumental life of which it is typical.

These material monuments, though they be erected from the most costly materials the world can possibly afford, under the circling march of time must crumble, fade, and fall. But it is not so with all monuments which we may erect. Look at the philosophic monuments, the scientific monuments, the literary monuments, the Christian monuments, and the monuments of character which have been erected, not from the productions of the mineral kingdom, but from jewels more precious than gold or sapphire, more transparent than jacinth, and more brilliant than the sparkling diamond—built from the noble virtues of honesty, truth and purity; integrity, simplicity, and humility.

By the eye of memory and imagination, we may look back upon monumental lives which shine forth in characters of living light and true beauty. Look with what admiration and delight the

world gazed upon the peerless and immortal Washington, who, unfolding the stainless flag of freedom over the shouting millions of the American people, and sweeping the circle of their dominion over half a hemisphere—wins from their filial hearts the endearing appellation of the father of his country, and proudly rolls the tide of his triumph over a trembling continent, part of which had been bathed in blood.

See these noble traits of character, also blending and culminating in the lives of others who have built for themselves monuments as broad as earth, and as high as heaven—such men as Lee and Jackson, Napoleon and Clay, Webster and Milton, Field, Edison, and Newton, Cicero, Cæsar, and Shakespeare.

Or look at the monuments which many of the present generation are building, such as Gladstone, Spurgeon, Broadus, or Moody. And many have been the men whose silent dust is sleeping beneath the sod, marked by no tombstone, and held in remembrance by no graceful monument. Yet they have by their plain, simple, pure, and stainless lives, erected to themselves monuments more enduring, than those reared by human hands.

And around these monuments of honor and greatness, bright-winged memories fly, soul-burning aspirations kindle, earthly affections ripen and sweeten, and beatific glories shine. To-day we may stand amid the sun-lit spires, of the capital of our great, free, and glorious republic, and gaze with open-eyed admiration upon the world renowned monument, which crowns the life of the noble Washington. And as it points heavenward, it turns our minds to him, who has con-

quered the monumental cares of earth, and gone to stand amid the sun-lit spires, of the city of God, the capital of creation, the capital of the universe. And as the vivid lightning flashes of hope and aspiration, light up the dark, mysterious realm of the future before us, gilding it with the tinting rays of hope, may we with minds fresh and vigorous, full of zeal and activity, strengthened by opportunities innumerable, and fired by the

grand possibilities of the future, reach forth our trembling hand, and take the prize which nature offers to all her toiling children.

And having reared these monuments of character and life, let us crown them with humility of spirit.

And looking up to heaven say, not on these monuments of ours would we climb into glory, but on the monumental merits of the dear crucified Christ.

MIDNIGHT GAZER.

The Literature of the Nineteenth Century.

The present century has been a time of progress. This onward movement has taken many directions. A hundred years ago, the stage-coach bowled along at the rate of eight miles per hour, and three or four months were consumed in making the trip across the Atlantic in a sailing vessel. But the invention of steamboats by Synington, and of railways by George Stevenson, revolutionized the means of travel; and to-day the "iron-horse" thunders along the track at forty miles an hour, and the great steamship goes from here to England in six days and a half. The telegraph and telephone have come into use and are so much employed that we know not what we did without them. Lucifer matches have superseded the old "flint and steel." In all these cases, and in many others, progress has been, and is now being, made.

But has the literature of the century kept pace with the mechanical inventions? Has it progressed or regressed? These questions are not easily settled. In answering them we must look at the different branches of literature, and com-

pare what has been done during the last hundred years with prior achievements.

First, notice poetry. It is said that every man is first a poet, and then a prose writer. Apply this rule to nations and we see that it holds good. Homer sang his verses before the dawn of profane history. Æschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides lived towards the beginning of Athenian history, and as we come down the scale we see a steady decline. Danté, Shakespeare, and Milton flourished long ago. The climax was reached in the latter. We should therefore not look for poetic talent in the present century, and we are not disappointed. True, Tennyson, Wordsworth, Longfellow, and others have enriched literature with their productions, but they do not come up to Shakespeare or to Milton.

But if we consider the prose writings of the nineteenth century we find that they are equal—perhaps superior—to those of the past. What other age can boast of such an essayist as Macauley, whose well-turned periods have a rhythmic flow? History has been enriched by

the works of Macauley, Green and others. The last-named struck out on a new line, and has given us, instead of a mere record of the kings and queens, a history of the people. He traces the steps by which they acquired the power in government, which they now possess. The past can certainly not present the names of such novelists as Scott, Dickens, Thackeray, Geo. Eliot, and many others. The fiction of the nineteenth century far surpasses that of any other time. In fact, it is only the last hundred years which has brought forth good novels—books that have first-rate literary merits.

The great characteristic of the literature of to-day is the newspaper and magazine. The press wields an influence over the public mind superior to that of anything else.

The public-school system has given education to well-nigh everybody; those

who cannot read are very few. Now the press supplies the literary cravings of mankind to a large degree. In the last century a few magazines, the *Spectator* for example, were in circulation.

But the number to-day is much larger. The newspaper is in far greater demand than formerly. The articles in the monthly, weekly and daily journals have no counter-part in the literary productions of the past.

With such a history what will the future be? This will depend upon whether the young men of the rising generation fulfil their part in life. They have much better educational advantages than had their ancestors. Is it too much to expect that the literature of the future will surpass that of the past? It may be if the youth of the present time do their duty.

PURITAN.

Association.

“Man considered in himself,” a writer has said, “is a very helpless and a very wretched being.” Man cannot endure absolute separation from his fellow-men. He is a social being, and as such he seeks and must have associates. The influence of one’s associates must be either one of two kinds: it must be either good or bad; either must have a tendency to strengthen and elevate one’s character, or to weaken and lower it. No one has ever over-estimated the power of association. Under its influence our character is formed, under its influence direction is given to our lives. “A man is known by the company he keeps,” is an old saying that can be applied with truth to every one.

If we see a person associating with a worthless set, we are at once led to consider him of the same stamp as his fellows, and *vice versa*. For in the company that one chooses for himself is found the expression of the real tendency of his mind. The corrupt man will not seek his associates among upright persons, because in them he cannot find anything congenial to his own evil nature. But he seeks his companions among those of natures like his own, with whom he is perfectly free to act out his evil inclinations and desires. It is all-important, then, that we who as yet have no decided inclinations either way, take care that we steer clear of bad company. Almost before one

is aware its influence will overtake him, and he, blinded to his danger, will be led on till his character is blasted, his life made worthless. If we take a rotten apple and put it in a pile of good fruit, soon the whole pile becomes rotten; so the influence of evil associates is felt among those who are of upright character, till the latter become as dissolute and low-minded as the former.

It is especially true that influence, whether for good or bad, is easily felt among young persons. Their characters have not been fully formed, and are therefore more pliable and more easily acted upon than the characters of those of maturer years. The young tree before it has reached its full growth can be trained in any direction. Special care should be taken, then, in youth to choose the right kind of associates. For this influence, when it once takes firm hold, cannot easily be overcome. It sticks fast to our character, and often moulds it for life. "The way the twig is bent, the tree's inclined." So, then, we cannot take too great care that we don't get with the wrong kind of associates in our youth to have our character bent in the wrong direction, so that as we grow in years our character will grow and incline the wrong way.

Many a bright character has thus been blighted on the threshold of a brilliant career; many a life that might have been useful and of great power has thus be-

come utterly vain and worthless. Particularly is care in choosing his companions necessary when a young man enters upon his college life. He is then at the formative period of his character, and a slight influence may give direction to his future life. Most young men, when first entering upon this period of their lives, from their strong innate love of association, wish to have around them at once a set of boon companions, and are too hasty in their selection.

But just here is the critical period; and they should take great precaution. They should not be in a hurry, but should take time for careful observation, resolving that those persons who are to exert the greatest influence over them during their college life should be such as will help them on and not retard them in their great object in life; such as will have an elevating influence and who will help them make men of themselves, and not such as will lower their character and make them useless and worthless persons. Young persons are affected more by association than they imagine. Then, young men, if you have been associating with persons whose influence you know has not been for your good, break loose from them, though it may require all the strength of your manhood. Don't let yourselves be hampered in this way and your future career thus jeopardized.

DISCIPULUS.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

How many things we do simply because it is customary. We cannot write a letter without letting custom dictate how we shall begin and how we shall close it; we never meet a friend that we do not pay our respects to custom as soon as we salute our friend; no assembly meets that does not meet according to custom. We have become slaves to custom. But we may not be any worse by serving it. Custom often saves us from embarrassment. To be guided by precedence is an easy way of settling some perplexing problems in social life. In fact, society is but a combination of customs. Custom is a book of reference in which is defined politeness, which contains all rules of etiquette, is not slighted when laws are to be enacted, and is carefully consulted when they are to be executed.

It is in obedience to this exacting, ruling principle that we write this article. For the same reason that our predecessors made their "bow" when they stepped out of the EDITORIAL sanctum we present our salutation upon entering. Were it not for custom this space might have been given to more readable and more profitable matter.

It is with trembling that we take our seats in the editorial chair, knowing the high standard to which this journal has attained, and been held through the skill and energy of our predecessors. It is our purpose, however, to spare no energy to maintain its former reputation. Yet much depends on the support we shall receive from the students. The part that we, as editors, perform, cannot make the

Messenger what it ought to be without regular contributions from the students. It is often difficult to obtain a sufficient amount of matter to bring out each issue promptly. This is partly due to the fact that composing is not easy work, and you are disposed to delay a duty which involves labor. To make the *Messenger* readable, especially among strangers, it must be on time. So let us all work together for this end, and during this session, let us make our journal even better than it was last year. There are few who appreciate the value of the ability to compose, and this ability is acquired only by long practice. The student, who spends a session at college without contributing at least one article to his college paper, has failed to perform an important duty.

Boys, hand in your articles promptly, but be sure to hand them in.

It is a startling, yet undisputed fact, that the majority of college graduates leave their schools with impaired constitutions and bodily debility, brought about by excessive mental labor, with not a proportional amount of physical exercise.

Whilst mental training and culture is an accomplishment which all should envy, yet knowledge gained at the expense of the physical constitution is a sad exchange. Students should take greater interest in the athletic department of the college, both the gymnasium and games of the campus.

Too great a strain upon the mental powers without a relative amount of exercise, not only debilitates the body and

undermines the constitution, but also enfeebles the mental faculties. The greatest success in professional life cannot be acquired without the capacity for great bodily endurance as well as mental attainments. The most lofty strides in this world's honors are attained by those who possess a physique, which can cope with their mental endowments.

The demand on the vitality of the professional man is very great, and if destitute of the physical endurance, a few hours' hard mental labor will prove too great a strain for his constitution. Wellington attributes his success as a commander to the fact of his great power of endurance; after the fatigue of a long day's march, he was still strong and fit for labor.

For several days there has been in session in our city the General Assembly of the Knights of Labor. It began its session on the 4th ult. A speech of welcome was delivered by Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, Governor of Virginia, and was responded to by Mr. T. V. Powderly, of Pennsylvania, General Master Workman of the Order.

The speech of Governor Lee merited and received the highest commendation both by the Knights and those not members of the Order. He was bold in some of his statements, but everything he said was characterized by a manifest regard for every man's peculiar rights. He was not backward in advising the Assembly to use just and peaceable means in seeking a solution of the great labor problem, insisting upon their observing the fundamental law of right, "Do unto others as you would have them do to you." It is said that Governor Lee's speech furnished

the Knights themselves with valuable information upon the very subject with which they are supposed to be most conversant—viz., the labor question.

The meeting of this Assembly has brought to more direct notice the workings of the Order, and has made more distinct and certain the fact of its rapid growth. The results of their deliberations will, in part at least, test the wisdom of such an organization. The world has a right to look upon the movement with suspicion so long as it engenders strikes and mobs such as the northern and western cities have experienced during the last year.

If this meeting inaugurates measures which shall effect an end to these disturbances, the Order will commend itself to the better sympathies of all American citizens. It would be unwise for this Assembly to undertake to settle too many matters at this meeting, and it has been unwise in the Order, if it has organized to regulate more than the labor question. The negro problem, like this question, is one of the problems of this age. Both together are too much for the Knights of Labor to undertake at once. Long established social customs are hard to change. Whatever may be argued as to the justice of the matter, it is a fact that social distinctions are made not only between races, but less closely between classes; and no organization can by any means destroy the former, nor can by force remove the latter distinction.

Hitherto the Knights have seemed to proceed upon the false position that "the world owes every man a living." To refute this position it is only necessary to state that were it true, every thief might by it be safely screened from the penalties

of law. The world is not indebted to the man who does not make it better by his living in it, and, whatever other considerations may be brought in, there is no more dishonesty involved in stealing from the poor than from the millionaire. It is to be hoped that they will soon abandon this saying as their motto, and say rather that an honest man deserves a living from the world.

The closing months of '86 thus far have found the world wrapped in a mantle of peace. Nothing has occurred to stir up strife between nations, and drench kingdoms in fraternal blood. But whilst the months roll so placidly by and the skies are so clear, yet we can discern dark spots on the horizon, which we fear may some day, in the near future, burst into a storm.

The relations of France and Germany to each other are very unsatisfactory and critical to the peace of Europe. It has now been sixteen years since the termination of the last great struggle between these two countries, resulting in the total defeat of the French armies, the loss of many millions of treasure, and the fertile and populous provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. By the termination of the war, Bismark, by his statesmanship, was able to cement into one empire all the German States, with Prussia as the head.

But France has shown Herculean strength in recovering from the shock of the war. She paid within five years the enormous indemnity of five thousand million of francs, which victorious Prussia levied upon her, and she soon took her place among the Powers of Europe.

Since that time she has paid extraordinary attention to the military strength

of the nation, and has spent money lavishly to elevate it to a formidable position. The French nation expended last year on the army \$120,000,000, and its strength is estimated to approach 500,000 men. Many Frenchmen cherish the hope that some day in the near future they may regain the lost districts of Alsace and Lorraine. At any rate the military preparations in France justify the fears of Germany, in watching with a jealous eye the movements across the Rhine.

Bismarck is said to have declared that he cared little for the conduct of Bulgaria, but the necessity of German armaments is due to the French.

In fact, all French newspapers prove that France is making preparations to fight, and is making sacrifices for the thorough equipment of her armies. Both nations seem to be wide awake, and viewing each other in deadly hatred and envy.

In case of hostilities the chances for success are nicely poised. The French can bring into the field over two million of men, whilst the resources of Germany are even greater. A struggle between these two countries would prove the most deadly in the annals of modern history.

As the autumn advances we naturally look forward to the elections which it brings with it. This fall's elections are extremely important, and may affect seriously the present political state of affairs. There will be elections held in every State of the Union with the exception of three, namely, Oregon, Maine and Vermont, where solid Republican delegations have already been sent to Congress. Three southern States also have held

State elections, resulting in the usual Democratic majorities.

A few years ago the 2d Tuesday in October was election day in many of the States, but now it has totally changed, October elections having become extinct with the constitutional amendments of Ohio and West Va. This arrangement has its advantages as well as disadvantages. In presidential years it throws county, state, and national elections together, thus saving great expense to the State; but whilst it does this, it also offers a wider field for corruption by swapping of candidates, especially county for State offices.

The most important feature of this year's elections will be the choice of a new Congress. The Democrats now have a majority of 45 in the House; whilst the Republicans have a small majority in the Senate. The Democrats en-

ertain great hope of overcoming the Republican majority in the Senate; whilst the Republicans, likewise, hope to control the next House.

The leading issue between the parties will be the tariff, though neither party is thoroughly united upon this issue.

Another important feature of this fall's election is the choice of State Legislatures, as the terms of twenty-five U. S. Senators expire on the 4th of next March. Of this number six have already been elected, resulting in a Democratic gain of one, Mr. Daniel, of Virginia.

Of the remaining 19 whose term expires, 9 are Democrats and ten Republicans. If four Republicans could be replaced by Democrats, they would then have control of the Senate. But uncertain is the field of politics.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

THE COMING METAL.—It is predicted that aluminum is the coming metal, which is destined to supersede iron. It is the most abundant metal in the earth's crust, and is not exceeded in usefulness. It is the metallic base of mica, feldspar, slate and clay. It is present in gems: colored blue in the sapphire, green in the emerald, yellow in the topaz, red in the ruby, brown in the emery, and so on to the white, gray, blue and black of the slates and clays. It has never been found in a pure state, but is known to exist in combination in nearly two hundred different minerals. Corundum and pure emery are very rich in aluminum, which constitutes about fifty-four per cent. of their substance. The metal is

white and next to silver in luster; it is as light as chalk, or only one third the weight of iron, or one fourth that of silver; is as malleable as gold, as tenacious as iron, and harder than steel. It is soft when ductility, fibrous when tenacity, and crystalline when hardness is required. It melts at 1300° Fahr., or at least 600° below the melting point of iron, and it neither oxydizes in the air nor tarnishes in contact with gases.

An ancient—probably pre-historic—British vessel has been found at Brigg, Lincolnshire, England, in the course of making an excavation of the ground for a new gas-holder. It is cut out of a solid piece of wood, and measures forty-eight

feet in length, fifty-two inches in width, and thirty-three inches in depth. It is in a remarkably good state of preservation, because, probably it was imbedded in a clay soil, which excluded the air. An ancient wooden causeway was discovered in the same neighborhood a few years ago. It was made of squared balks of timber fifteen feet long and ten inches square, which had been fastened to the earth by pegs driven through holes in the ends.

M. Blanchard conceives that the recent seismic catastrophe in New Zealand lends probability to his theory that that island is one of the remnants of a formerly existing Australian continent that has been submerged. Evidence was wanted of the liability, present or past, of the regions to shocks severe enough to suggest that former stronger shocks might have produced such phenomena of submergence as he predicates. The late shock was one of the kind.

During the last nine years chemists have proclaimed no less than 34 new elementary bodies.

Of these 34 bantlings, however, but 5 or 6 have survived the scrutiny of the doctors, two or three are now in precarious health, and the remainder have been cremated without ceremonies.

Of the youthful survivors comparatively little is known, their character being severely tested, and their future destiny and utility are yet uncertain. The extreme rarity of the minerals in which the new elements have been detected, the excessively small percentage of the new ingredients, the extraordinary difficulties attending their separation from known

substances, combine to render the investigation laborious, protracted, and costly.

A PETRIFIED HUMAN.—In a cave near Pocahontas, on the New-River division of the Norfolk and Western railroad, a petrified child was found a few days ago standing or leaning against the side of the cave, the head and face being plainly visible and distinct. The top part of the head shows the naked skull; this is where the water was found dripping on the body. The balance of the body is rock, but the shape of the child is plain and distinctly visible.

This wonderful statue is now in the possession of Captain John A. Burchfield, a conductor on the New-River division of the Norfolk and Western railroad, who lives at New River, Pulaski county, Va., where it was seen by the writer, standing in one corner of his parlor. It stands erect, and seems to have died with its arms tied behind and fastened to the side of the cave. How it got in the cave, and how long it had been there, no one knows.—*Dispatch*.

CAST GLASS RAILS.—Friedrich Siemens, of Dresden, has succeeded in casting glass in the same way as metal is cast, and obtaining an article corresponding to cast metal. This cast glass is hard, not dearer in production than cast iron, and has the advantage of transparency, so that all flaws can be detected before it is applied to practical use. It will be much less exposed to injury from atmospheric influences than iron. The process of production is not difficult, the chief feature being rapid cooling. The hardness and resisting power of this cast glass are so great that experiments are being just now

carried out at the Siemens glass foundry at Dresden with the purpose of ascertaining whether the material could be employed for rails on railways.

A sample of these glass sleepers recently tested at the Anderston Foundry Company (Limited), Glasgow, resisted a falling weight of $3\frac{3}{4}$ cwt., falling upon a rail placed upon the sleeper set in sand ballast, commencing at 6 inches and rising by succeeding increments of 6 inches up to 9 feet 6 inches—the *maximum* elevation to which the test ram could be elevated—without effect until the blow had been repeated for the sixth time. Cast iron sleepers are expected to withstand a similar test up to 7 feet only. The cost of glass sleepers will be considerably less than that of either cast iron or steel, while the material is practically imperishable as regards climatic changes and influences, or the ravages of such insects as the white ant.

TOUGHENING WOOD.—It is claimed that by a new process white wood can be made so tough as to require a cold-chisel to split it. This result is obtained by steaming the timber and submitting it to end pressure, technically “upsetting it,” thus compressing the cells and fibers into one compact mass. It is the opinion of those who have experimented with the process that wood can be compressed seventy-five per cent., and that some timber which is now considered unfit for use in such work as carriage building could be made valuable by this means. *Iron Age.*

Action of Light upon Eyeless Animals. In the proceedings of the Vienna Academy Mr. Graber describes some experiments that prove that animals deprived of eyes are

sensitive to light. He took a box divided into three compartments by parallel partitions, each of which was provided with two neighboring apertures. One of these latter he covered with a piece of wood, and exposed the box to the light. In this way, half of each compartment was lighted, while the other was dark. Then he put a number of earthworms into each compartment, and distributed them as equally as possible. From time to time, he removed the cover of the box and counted the worms that were opposite the open aperture and those that were opposite the closed one. Then he distributed them equally to the right and left, and put in more every four hours. The results of several experiments were that there was a total of 210 worms in the dark parts and 40 in the lighted ones. As, at the beginning of the experiment, the worms were distributed equally over the surface of the box, Mr. Graber concluded that 85 (that is, two fifths) had shunned the light. He likewise studied the action of different rays upon these animals, and, by employing red and blue glass, for example, found that the worms manifested a marked preference for red light. — *La Nature.*

According to M. Mantegazza, 64 per cent. of the Italians have chestnut, 22 per cent. black, 11 per cent. blue, and 3 per cent. gray eyes; 71 per cent. of them have chestnut, 26 per cent. black, and 3 per cent. blonde hair. More than three fourths of the people have abundant hair. Southern Italy excels Northern Italy in this respect. In Tuscany the poor heads of hair preponderate (58 against 42 per cent.) and baldness is most common there. The color of the beards does not always

correspond with that of the locks. Generally, of ten thousand young men examined for military service; twenty were rejected for premature baldness and fifty-two for diseases of the scalp. A few cases of red hair are found, and in one commune this color is predominant. The origin of this colored hair is subject to discussion. Some think it has come down from an almost extinct race; others, that it is a mere physiological accident, from which no conclusion can be drawn.

PRIZE FOR A WAR-SHIP DESIGN.—The Navy Department offers a prize of \$15,000 for the best design for a war ship.

Mr. A. Sanson, a French scientist, states that from a comparison of animal and steam power, in France at least, the former is the cheaper motor. In the conversion of chemical or mechanical energy ninety per cent. is lost in the machine, against sixty-eight in the animal. He finds that the steam horse power, contrary to what is generally believed, is often materially exceeded by the horse. The cost of traction on the Montparnasse-Bastille line of railway he found to be for each car, daily, fifty-seven francs, while the same work done by the horse cost only forty-seven francs; and he believes that, for moderate powers, the conversion of chemical into mechanical energy is more economically effected through animals than through steam engines.

The ingenuity of persons who "get up" precious stones and mock pearls for "the trade" has been often commented upon and frequently censured. A London lapidary, who works in the groove indi-

cated, was called upon a few months ago in a court of law to explain his mode of procedure. "I make all my imitations out of real stones," was his reply to the judge. On being asked to be more explicit, he said: "Perhaps I possess some pale stones which are of small value; these I split by the aid of my tools; then introducing a deeper tone of color I join them together again, having considerably increased their salable value." In this manner the colors of many stones are said to be intensified, such as emeralds, sapphires, amethysts and others.

Dr. Van Marter, of the Eternal City, has been delving among the Etruscan tombs, and has resurrected skulls which antedate the Christian era by at least 600 years, and which discover the existence in those early times of the art of dentistry. False teeth have actually been found in these human and echoless caverns. The toothache is not a "lost art," neither is artificial teeth making a new one; it is simply an old art revived.

Mr. Blanford, meteorological reporter to the Government of India, is testing from year to year a theory of a connection between the Himalayan snow-fall and the monsoon, to the effect that the later and heavier the snow-fall in winter and spring, the later and feebler would be the following monsoon. The forecasts, according to this theory, were fairly accurate last year. This year they appear favorable to a prompt monsoon and abundance of rain.

A green rose is one of the newest productions of botanical science.

The first case of the admission of a woman to the French Academy of Science

occurred on the 28th of June, when Sophie Kowlewska, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Stockholm, and daughter of the eminent paleontologist, was received as a member. Admiral Jurien de la Graviève, President of the Academy, made her a graceful address of

welcome, and she took her seat between General Fave and M. Chevreul.

Faded ink can be restored so as to render the writing legible by passing a brush, wet in a solution of sulphide of ammonia, over the writing.

LOCALS.

No more fun,
Gone, I trow,
Red-tape business
No more now.

At our work,
Dry and tough;
To keep us straight
'Tis enough.

Cry of "rat"—
Re-union word—
On the campus
No more heard.

Mama's pet,
Loved a lot,
Now homesickness
Has forgot.

Now he's learned,
(Hard his luck)
Himself in bed at
Night to tuck.

Little girl
Left behind
Almost—not quite
Out of mind.

Now and then
Billet doux,
Give poor student
Case of blues.

Answers soon—
No more pain
Until Cupid
Shoots again.

Too much work,
Blues can't last,

Thoughts of home scenes
Fading fast.

English, Math.,
Latin, Greek,
Keeps us stirring
All the week.

Write, dear friends—
Make no fuss
If you never
Hear from us.

So we send
Messen-gaire;
It tells what we're
Doing here.

144 State-Fair tickets were sold to the students.

147 matriculates to date. 12 more than this time last session. 5 more than matriculated during the entire session.

On our return to college, there were few changes and improvements that so took our eye as those made at the "Students' Emporium." During the summer Mrs. Keil so remodelled her store that we could hardly realize it was the same place, until we got inside and observed the presence of the Madam, which convinced us that it was the same old seven-and-six in a new suit. We admire her enterprise, and if we haven't paid for it already, we'll

see that her notes don't go to protest. Read her ad. in this *Messenger*.

Tennis has at last become a popular game at Richmond College. The first game was played here two years ago. The students were slow to take it up. Last year, interest in the game increased, and this session we start out with four clubs, all enthusiastic over the game. We think the game is destined to detract interest from our other out-door amusements.

Prof. Harris has had printed at his own expense, and distributed among the students, his "Scheme of Bible Study." It is in neat pamphlet form, and will be a material help to his course of lectures.

Thomas Memorial Hall has been finished. Dr Ryland has shown magnificent taste in superintending the work. It will not be long, we trust, before it will be second to no institution of the kind in the South.

Prof. P., while lecturing on thermotics, spoke of the non-conducting power of the earth, illustrating it by the coolness of a cave or cellar in the summer. Questioning next day, he asked:

"Mr. C., where do you go on a hot summer's day, when you want to keep cool?"

Mr. C.: "Well, you generally get under some big tree in the shade."

When one of our tennis clubs were on the campus, cutting the grass for a court, and Mr. F. in his shirt-sleeves was manfully pushing the mower, driving threads of "earth's green carpet" before him like chaff before a cyclone, a kind-hearted lady

driving by remarked to her companion, "Poor fellow, he missed his lesson to-day, and now he is paying the penalty."

The laugh of his club-mates gave Mr. F. the grins.

On Thursday, October 21st, the first foot-ball game of the season between Randolph-Macon and Richmond College teams was played. The game was made up in consideration of the day being holiday for the Fair, and was intended more for a pastime for the morning hours than for a match. It was entirely too early in the season for a match-game, the teams having had too little time for practice, as was clearly shown in the contest.

Randolph-Macon won the first three games and were declared victors.

We hope that this will be an incentive to both teams to practice hard for a few weeks and then have a real match-game that will reflect credit upon the winners.

There is scarcely any matter in our magazine that deserves a more careful reading at the hands of the students than the advertisements.

This department should be a business guide for the college, and as far as possible the houses represented there should be patronized by us.

It represents *the leading merchants* of Richmond, and with our acquaintance of them we are ready to give our word for it that nowhere can purchases be made on better terms or with fairer dealing.

The financial support of our paper comes largely from its advertisements, and it is but just that the favors of these men should be reciprocated by the students, rather than spending their money with concerns that give the Business Man-

ager a rebuff when he approaches them for an ad.

Almost every line of trade is represented in our columns, and we urge every student, before making any purchase, no matter how small, to see that his patronage is bestowed upon a patron of the *Messenger*.

We have been tempted to call Mr. C. aside and whisper a word of advice in his ear to caution him against making a laughing-stock of himself by his most ridiculous efforts to pun on all occasions. But we think he is entitled to a few more days of grace before we try to make the "sit," for the following observation: He observed thus: "Boys, all this mixed-up accentuation in Greek is a humbug. If I had my way I'd take the *acute* and *circumflex* both and put them in the *grave*."

This reminds us of the following dialogue, which occurred in the Greek class:

Mr. S.: "Professor, what is the meaning of this word?"

Prof. of Greek: "Look for it, Mr. S."

Mr. S.: "I can't find it."

Prof.: "Mr. S., hunt up the root."

Mr. S.: "I have hunted, Professor, root and branch, and I can't find it."

The students are gratified to learn that arrangements have been made for a series of Biblical lectures to be delivered bi-weekly at the college during the present session.

Those of us who were here '84-5 remember with pleasure and profit a course of Biblical lectures from our professors and other able theologians, and the absence of them from our schedule last year was a subject of universal regret among

us. We now look forward with delight to the intellectual feast before us.

The first of the series was delivered Wednesday, October 6th, and if we may hope that its standard will be fairly approached throughout the course, we have every right to congratulate ourselves upon what we have in store.

The meeting was largely attended by professors, students and visiting friends, when Rev. George Cooper, D. D., pastor of First Baptist church of this city, lectured on "The Fall of Man."

Dr. Cooper has no more ardent admirers in Richmond than the students of the college, and we hope he will visit us frequently as friend and counsellor.

The second lecture was delivered, October 28th, by Rev. W. E. Hatcher, D. D., on "The Character of Joseph." He had certainly made a careful study of his subject, and sustained his reputation among us as an attractive speaker. Dr. Hatcher is an old friend of the students, and we were glad to have him with us on this occasion.

The following communication was found on one of the student's tables, who permits us to publish it with the translation taken from "Burnett's Floral Hand Book." He explained that he and a friend had written it to two young lady-friends who had sent him the "Floral Guide," with several emblems marked, also their tin types:

Our dear "Zennæ":

Accept our "Bell Flowers" for the "Roses, Cabbage," which were no less a "Pleurisy Root" than a "Truffle." Truly your "Rose, Burgundy" is only exceeded by your "Everlasting (Graphalium)."

Its arrival brought a "Lily of the

Valley" to "Sunflowers, Dwarf," whom a long "Trumpet Flower" had made "Corchorus," but not "Lotus."

Our album which is "Rose, Tea" has become "Magnolia, Grandiflower" by the "Hornbeans" contributed.

They personify "Mallow," "Jessamine, yellow," and "Hibiscus." To one we said: "Rose, Austrian," to the other, "Daphne, Odora."

Our "Yew" over your "Wormwood," and "Touch-me-not Balsam" for your return drives us to "Cypress" and "Cypress and Marigold," but never a "Rose, yellow."

Our "Snow-drop" is our "Polyanthus" that you will "Plum Tree," for you said "Phlox" . . . we will have "Dock," "Chinquefoils" believing "Pine" will not "Pimpernel" you.

This is not "Bladder-Nut Tree" nor "Venus' Looking-Glass," we hope not "Snapdragon"; though "Rose, Carolina" yet we make a "Rose, Moss-Rosebud."

We must say "Pine, Spruce"

"Dahlia" in "Honeysuckle."

It is translated thus:

Our dear "Absent Friends":

Accept our "gratitude" for the "Ambassadors of Love," which were no less a "Cure for heart-ache" than a "Surprise."

Truly your "Unconscious Beauty" is only exceeded by your "Never-ceasing remembrance."

Its arrival brought a "Return of happiness" to "Your devoted admirers," whom a long "Separation" had made "Impatient of absence," but not "Forgetful of the past."

Our album which is "always beautiful" has become "Peerless and proud" by the "ornaments" contributed.

They personify "Sweetness," "Grace,"

and "Delicate beauty." To one we said, "Thou art all that is lovely"; to the other, "I would not have you otherwise."

Our "Sorrow" over your "Absence" and "Impatience" for your return drives us to "Mourning" and "Despair," but never a "Decrease of love."

Our "Consolation" is our "Confidence" that you will "Keep your promises," for you said "Our hearts are united," therefore we will have "Patience," "Beloved children," believing that "Time" will not "Change" you.

This is not "Frisolous Amusement" nor "Flattery," we hope not "Presumption"; though "Love is dangerous," yet we make a "Confession of love."

We must say "Farewell"

"Forever thine" in

"Bonds of Love."

Mr. C. says the reason he slept in his shoes the other night was in deference to the kind suggestion of Mr. A. He protests against the idea that the late visit of the toe-pullers had anything to do with it.

On Saturday evening, October 2d, our Y. M. C. A. held its first meeting of the session. The roll of last year was called; and to its 68 names only 43 were present to respond. It was one of the largest meetings we have ever held, but we sadly missed many familiar faces as their names were called, to which there was no answer. We felt that indeed their places were empty, and realized that truly the chord that bound us together in sessions past, strengthened from time to time by our associations together, none more dearly memorable than those of our chapel, had been severed.

Yet our roll was not allowed to shorten

by our misfortune. To the 43 old names were added those of 26 new students, which sustained its former length, and we are pleased to know there are more to follow.

The Association was addressed by brethren who have been accustomed while at college to spend their Sunday afternoons in mission work.

It was shown that very profitable work had been done at the Penitentiary Sunday School and our other stations, and that the outlook was good for the present session.

Appeals were made to old and new students to enlist in the work, which were generously responded to on the afternoon following, by as many accepting work in the different fields as could be accommodated with it.

The Association then went into the election of officers for the ensuing term, with the following result: President, Jas. D. Martin, of Pittsylvania co.; vice-president, W. B. McGarity, of Atlanta, Ga.; corresponding secretary, C. L. Laws, of Loudon county; recording secretary, C. A. Folk, of Tennessee; treasurer, W. F. Lewis, of Danville.

The Association has never before in its history begun a session's work under more favorable auspices, and we trust that Our Father, in whose name we labor, shall "establish the work of our hands."

At the meetings of the Literary Societies held Friday evening, Oct. 1st, the following officers were elected:

Philologian Society: President, C. D. Roy, of Atlanta, Ga.; vice-president, Jas. T. Noell, of Bedford co.; recording secretary, J. W. Avery, of Alexandria; corresponding secretary, A. M. Carroll,

of Asheville, N. C.; censor, H. N. Quisenberry, of Spotsylvania co.; critic, H. W. Jones, of Washington co.; chaplain, A. J. Ramsey; sergeant-at-arms, C. F. McMullan, Madison co.; editors of *Messenger*, H. W. Williams, W. A. Borum, C. R. Cruikshanks; historian, H. W. Williams, of Smyth co.; hall managers, T. R. Corr and O. L. Martin.

Mu Sigma Rho Society: President, W. C. Robinson, of Sussex county; Vice-President, Herbert F. Cox, of Richmond; Censor, H. W. Straley, of West Virginia; Editors of *Messenger*, W. C. Tyree, H. W. Straley, R. C. Stearnes; Recording Secretary, J. M. Wilbur, of Charleston, S. C.; Corresponding Secretary, E. D. Clopton, of Gloucester county; Chaplain, L. P. Russell, of Norfolk; Treasurer, R. P. Rixey, of Culpeper county; Critic, S. W. Dorset, of Powhatan county; Sergeant-at-Arms, C. W. Trainham, of Richmond; Hall Manager, R. L. Motley, of Pittsylvania county.

Joint Session: The report of the Business Manager of the *Messenger* was read, showing receipts for last session to have been \$609.57; disbursements, \$560.49; balance in treasury, \$49.08. Mr. W. A. Borum, of Norfolk, was re-elected Business Manager, with power to select an assistant; for which position Mr. W. C. Robinson, of Sussex county, was chosen.

At a joint meeting of the Literary Societies held Friday evening, October 8th, the following paper was presented:

"To the Societies in Joint Session:

"At a meeting of the Societies held the latter part of last session it was decided that the member handing in the largest number of names of new subscri-

bers to the *Messenger* with the cash, should be awarded a handsome silver watch, the contest to close Tuesday afternoon, October 5th, at 5 o'clock.

"This action was duly advertised in the *Messenger* and on the bulletin board.

"At the close of the contest we found that Mr. J. D. Martin, of Pittsylvania county, was the successful competitor.

Respectfully, W. A. BORUM,
Business Manager."

The result was received with loud applause by the students.

By request, Prof. Harris was present to deliver Mr. Martin his prize, which he did in his usual happy style.

The *Messenger* congratulates her friend, Mr. Martin, and assures him that she fully appreciates his kindly interest in her. She will remember his loyalty to her, and when it is in her power, she will cheerfully reciprocate the favors shown.

BIBLE STUDY THIS SESSION.—The committee in charge of the course of Biblical lectures for the current session, propose to cover about half of the Old Testament, or from the beginning down to the times of King Solomon. This part of the Bible, including the Pentateuch, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I. and II. Samuel, eleven chapters of I. Kings, I. Chronicles, nine chapters of II. Chronicles, Job, about four fifths of the Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Solomon's Song, has been divided into about two hundred and fifty portions for daily reading through the session. The readings are arranged in chronological order according to subject or date of composition. For example, Kings and Chronicles, separate accounts of the same persons, are read *pari passu*; such of the Psalms as have any clear

historical connection are put along with the events to which they refer; and Solomon's writings are taken up in the midst of the account of his reign. The advantages of such an arrangement for systematic and careful reading are obvious, and will appear even more strikingly if, as we hope, the plan shall be continued next session with the latter part of the Old Testament—the period of the Prophets.

The Daily Readings are further grouped as below under appropriate headings, and once a week, usually on Mondays at 7.30 P. M., Prof. Harris meets the students with some explanatory remarks on the connection, geography and so forth.

Then about twice a month, at some hour of the morning, recitations are suspended, and all students, with such visitors as may choose to attend, are invited to the chapel to hear a fuller discussion of one or another point of special interest.

To give some idea of the general course we append a list of the weekly topics:

Oct. 4. The Primeval World. Gen. i-xi. 9.

Oct. 11. Life of Abraham. Gen. xi. 10-xxvi.

Oct. 18. Life of Jacob. Gen. xxvii-xxxvi.

Oct. 25. Life of Joseph. Gen. xxxvii-end.

Nov. 1 and 8. Hebrew Poetry and the Discussion of Divine Providence. Book of Job.

Nov. 15. Deliverance of Israel. Ex. i-xii.

Nov. 22. Journeys to Sinai. Ex. xiii-xxiv.

Nov. 29. The Tabernacle. Ex. xxv-end.

Dec. 6. The Regular Offerings. Lev. i-vii.

Dec. 13. Duties of Ministers. Lev. viii-xv.

Dec. 20. Solemn Days. Lev. xvi-end.

Dec. 27. The Martial Array. Num. i-x. 10.

Jan. 3. In the Wilderness. Num. x. 11-xxi.

Jan. 10. Approaching Jordan. Num. xxii-xxxvi. and Psalms cv. and cvi.

Jan. 17. Review of the Law. Deut. i-xi.

Jan. 24. Review of the Law. Deut. xii-xxvii.

Jan. 31. Moses' Last Words. Deut. xxviii-end and Psalms xc. and cxix.

Feb. 7. Conquest of Canaan. Josh. i-xiii. 14.

Feb. 14. Its Allotment. Josh. xiii-15-end and Psalm lxxviii.

Feb. 21. The Earlier Judges. Jud. i-xii.

Feb. 28. The Later Judges. Jud. xiii-end, and Ruth.

Mch. 7. Samuel the Prophet. I. Chron. i-ix, and I. Sam. i-viii.

Mch. 14. Saul the First King. I. Sam. ix-xxi. and several Psalms.

Mch. 21. Later Years and Death. I. Sam. xxii. II. Sam. i. ; I. Chron. x. ; and several Psalms.

Mch. 28. Accession of David. II. Sam. ii-vii. ; I. Chron. xi-xvii. ; and Psalms.

Apr. 4. David's Troubles. II. Sam. viii-xiv. ; I. Chron. xviii-xx. 3 ; and Psalms.

Apr. 11. Rebellions. II. Sam. xv. ; I. Kings i. ; I. Chron. xx. 4-xxii. 1 ; and Psalms.

Apr. 18. The Temple Service. I. Chron. xxii. 2-end.

Apr. 25. The Psalms of David.

May 2. Accession of Solomon. I. Kings ii-iv. ; and Solomon's Song.

May 9. His Wisdom. Prov. i-xvii.

May 16. Admonitions. Prov. xviii-end.

May 23. The Temple. I. Kings v-ix. 9 ; II. Chron. i-vii.

May 30. Its Services. Selected Psalms.

June 6. Greatness and Weakness. I. Kings ix. 10-xi. ; II. Chron. viii-ix. ; and Ecclesiastes.

About \$40,000 is the amount said to have been received from the sale of paintings at the second annual Prize Fund Exhibition at the American Art Galleries.

At the Alleghany College the holiday has been changed from Saturday to Monday. Considerable dissatisfaction is expressed at the change.

Dr. McCosh, of Princeton, has averaged ten hours of study per day throughout

his professional life. He has just passed his seventy-fourth birthday.

Father of young girl : " I should think you would be satisfied after the treatment you got here last night. I kicked you down the front steps and set the dog on you, and he came back with a big piece of your trousers. Now, what do you want ?

Young man : " I'd like that piece of cloth, please."

OUR LETTER-BOX.

[Queries may be addressed to the Letter-Box, care *Messenger*.]

"*Evelyn*."—There has been no arrival by the name you give. Are you particular that it should be handed to him only?

"*Warwick*."—We have only one dude this year and he is not *A very* big one. As soon as he can cure his corns he will wear shoes like the rest of us.

"*McA. & B.*"—Send them on and we can possibly dispose of them for you; and if you happen to have any old or second-hand knickerbockers in stock, we can get rid of them also for you.

"*Hellen*."—All communications rejected unless accompanied by photograph.

"*South Carolina*."—We must decide the bet in your favor, notwithstanding the large odds you receive. We have looked over chemistry notes for several sessions, and can only say that so far as we know it is a fresh joke.

"*Julius*."—We would advise against it. The chestnut-bell ought not to be rung in the class-room, even if the Professor does say "Well," ninety-six times during one recitation.

"*Litchfield*."—You underestimate our museum. We have several things in it. Did you see the mummy and the exhibit from Luray Cave and those Japanese coins and that stuffed wild cat? We have several things more to put in there as soon as they get old enough to be

curiosities. Call around some time about 1950, and you'll see a lot of new things.

"*Henrico*."—No, that little fellow you see walking about the campus with his chin swung off at an angle of 45 degrees, and his arms hanging like rainbows from his shoulders, he's not a professor. That is not avoirdupois he carries around; it is wind. He's made a few classes, but there is another fellow here who has done as well. We are looking for an explosion.

"*Shreveport, La.*"—Your contributions received. Thanks. Too late for this number. Will appear next time.

"*Paris, France*."—We returned your thanks to Prof. P. for his instructions on Fahrenheit scale.

"*Augustus*."—We sympathize with you in your troubles, but can hardly give you a suggestion—never having been there. We would do as she requests—return every letter and photograph.

"*Chester*."—We wouldn't object to giving you a little notoriety, but not on the terms you suggest. Our advertising rates are, 1 page one time, \$5.00 in advance.

"*X. Y. Z.*"—Our professors do not write for our columns; but we have their best wishes for our success.

"*Emperor Frederick William*."—We are proud to be able to answer your inquiry affirmatively. We have set apart a table in our mess for the encouragement of those who wish to prosecute their study

of your tongue. But we would like for you to suggest a better method. We find it impossible to divert their attention from more practical exercise. During this exercise their remarks are few and to the point; and for fear of being misunderstood they resort to the pure old Anglo-Saxon. We will render you any further assistance possible, this effort proving an absolute failure.

“*New Student.*”—We would refer you to any of the magazines of fashion for the information desired. (1.) We are not sure, but think that embroidering on half hose this fall will be in Japanese letters. (2.) The color of the cravat will match the eyes as nearly as possible. (3.) Yes, we think there is also an improvement in the manufacture of bureaux. Like beds they have automatic adjustment. This folds them up at pleasure into a hat-rack. And the “horrid, nasty coal-boxes,” by new arrangement, may be inverted in the daytime to become a handsome set of rosewood book-shelves.

The address of a young lady who is willing to correspond with a young man

at college who has an occasional leisure hour he would be pleased to spend in this way, is desired by “Earnest,” care Letter-Box.

“*Anxious Inquirer.*”—One student has tried sleeping with his shoes on; another, a steel trap at the foot of his bed; and still another, a patent, automatic, back-action, self-cocking burglar alarm. You can make your choice from any of these preventives.

“*L.*”—The jokes you sent were copyrighted, and placed in the British Museum 96254 B. C. They are interesting for the perfect manner in which they have been handed down to us, and we would like to publish them, but are afraid of the authorities.

“*Constant Reader.*”—“Hod Zuggity” is an obsolete expression. At one time it was a common ejaculation among college students. It originated among the ancient Pfkthzhts, tribe of the Kztvts. All traces of the meaning of the expression have been lost, so far as we know.

PERSONALS.

H. N. Phillips, '85-6, was recently with us on a visit. He is teaching a graded school in Petersburg.

R. D. Tucker will be with us in December. Add his name to the list of prospective M. A.'s.

W. C. A. Gregory has had to leave college, we hope for but a brief season, on account of sickness.

C. L. Davenport, '85-6, is working his

tobacco crops at his home in Halifax. Next to studying mathematics, we believe Davy would rather raise tobacco than do anything else. He may come in on us any day.

C. W. Pritchett, M. D., '84, has his shingle out in Pittsylvania county. We are told that he has a large practice.

S. W. Dorsett, we regret to learn, has been compelled on account of bad

health to leave college. He is going to take charge of two churches in Isle of Wight county.

W. L. Lemon, '85, is preaching near Lunenburg Courthouse. We rejoice with him in the success he has had since he entered upon his work.

R. E. Jordan, '86, is in the tobacco business in South Boston.

D. H. Marrow and J. R. Thomas, '86, are studying medicine at the Richmond Medical College.

R. A. Wilbur, '86, is in Corning, N. Y., in the dentist office of his brother, studying for that profession.

R. A. Tucker is in Amherst teaching school. We hoped to have him with us this session.

Charles L. Jones and John A. Bundick, '86, are at the University.

B. R. Bostick, '86, is teaching school at his home in Lawtonville, S. C.

W. W. Morton, '86, is in business in Richmond with his father.

W. Y. Quisenberry is at the Seminary in Louisville. What Philog. can take his place?

Thos. N. Ferrell, of Danville, '85,

passed through Richmond a few days since on his way to Detroit, Mich., combining business and pleasure in his trip.

B. T. Gunter, Jr., '86, is at the University this session.

Frank Lyon, '85, came on to attend the Fair. He entered the bicycle race and won the honors. Frank is good at almost anything.

W. R. Fitzgerald, '85, was in the city Fair week. He is in the tobacco business in Danville.

Alfred Bagby, B. A. '85, is teaching this year in King and Queen county.

H. DeB. Burwell, '85, will graduate this year at the Richmond Medical College.

Conway Myers, '85, has signed with Baker & Farren Comedy Company, and will leave November 1st on a western tour.

Lawrence W. Wilson, '85, is studying dentistry at the Dental College in Baltimore, and reports himself much pleased.

Sam. V. Fiery, '85, is studying medicine at the Maryland University.

Jeter G. Dickinson, '86, is principal of a graded school in Charles City county.

Two daughters of the Prince of Wales, whose ages are sixteen and fourteen respectively, have made the tricycle famous. They think nothing of taking a run of fifty miles in a day.

Cavalry regiments in the Prussian army are being carefully drilled in the art of swimming their horses across rivers. At the word "Dismount!" the

soldiers divest themselves of their clothing, which with their weapons, etc., is placed upon a raft, which is swiftly ferried across the river, while the men take the horses by the head with one hand and swim with the other. The feat is said to be performed with the utmost precision and rapidity, whole regiments crossing and recrossing in an astonishingly short time.

EXCHANGES.

Although by no means the easiest position on the corps of editors, still we hardly think that there is any other department of an editor's duty from which he can derive more genuine pleasure and thorough improvement than in the management of the Exchange office.

Accordingly, as we take charge of this part of the *Messenger*, while we feel that our inexperience will alloy the pleasure we shall derive from it, we nevertheless hope that we shall have the capacity to utilize this opportunity of acquiring information by carefully studying this department of other magazines, and that we may also gain experience and profit from our own mistakes.

Exchange editors appear to us to be situated as knights in a tournament, their armor being as varied and manifold as their number. As we look upon the field at this early day of '86-7 all is joyous, calm, and serene. By and by, however, unless we prophesy in vain, in different directions, "They of the quill," probably two and two, will courteously break a lance with one another, and possibly there may be a general melee, in the midst of which it will be impossible to see which way the advantage lies, but after the dust and confusion shall have passed away, we feel quite sure that the "Conservatism of the College Press" will nobly proclaim the victory of the true and right.

We cannot refrain from expressing the hope that no participant may, in the heat of debate and controversy, so forget himself that, by some discourteous remark or unworthy act, he may lay himself

liable to have his shield reversed and to be set up as an object of public derision.

We might also add that these thoughts and remarks are intended to refer to the company of Exchange editors as a whole, and are not made with any desire to indirectly lay down the gauntlet, for we, being inexperienced and unskilled, should much prefer at present to occupy the position of an observer, and by watching the "masters," gain information, if perchance by some unaccepted criticism we should provoke a controversy at some later day; but we think that space and propriety will not admit of anything further in this connection, and so "Laissez aller."

No exchange comes to our table that is superior to the *Troy Polytechnic* in general appearance, order of arrangement, and excellence of paper.

Its reading matter, too, is not without interest, and we think that it is a good model in a great many respects.

Among our new exchanges our attention was particularly drawn to the *Christian Voice*, the official organ of Y. M. C. A. of Norfolk and Portsmouth.

It comprehends within its pages, news and articles concerning all the Christian movements of the day, including the general work of the Association, facts and dots about the different denominations, and observations on general education and temperance. We know of no weekly that contains a larger and more complete stock of religious information than this.

In looking over the *Lehigh Burr* we were struck most favorably by the sound

sentiments expressed in their leading editorial.

The editors, after modestly disclaiming any expectation of getting out a paper superior to that of their predecessors, go on to say that they sincerely desire that the paper shall continue its upward strides during their term of office; that they propose to make it the true exponent of their college affairs, and also to assist other college journals, as far as they can, by candid and kindly criticism.

We applaud such sentiments, Messrs. Editors, and think that, as far as that part of the paper immediately contributed by the editors, is concerned, it bears evidence to the genuineness of your professions; but if you will allow us, we would offer the suggestion that the general body of students be roused up to contribute more to the literary department and not content themselves to be represented by an article like "The Judge's Story" alone. We remember to have read a counterpart of this story somewhere in the Fourth or Fifth Reader, but think it better to have it at least mixed with something more solid in a university magazine. Now if the title of our worthy contemporary was only *Chestnut Burr*.

However, we suppose the "Judge" wishes to be noted, like Chief-Justice Marshall, for example, for his simplicity.

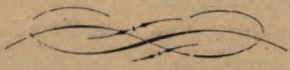
We are glad to welcome among our ex-

changes the *Virginia Enterprise*. We were not surprised to find that it abounded in wit, humor, and readable information of all kinds, for we knew the editor, Mr. Ramsdell, when he was a student here at college, and have often enjoyed his sparkling originality and inimitable mimicry.

We are glad, therefore, to renew our acquaintance with him mediately through the *Enterprise*, and anticipate much pleasure from the connection.

The *Normal News*, of Courtland, N. Y., comes to us in an enlarged form. We are glad to see this, as also every other advance in our exchanges, and think that if the *News* would add to its other excellencies a cover of different colored paper, with no advertisements on it, and a larger amount of literary matter, there would be no fault in it of such magnitude as to call for any special notice. Will the *News* accept our thanks for the following:

"In the *Richmond College Messenger*, three articles appear which should have a wider circulation than they will probably have in a college paper. The subjects treated are 'The Development of Leadership,' 'Boswell—The Satellite,' 'Morals and Mathematics.' These orations show a maturity of thought and reasoning, a roundness of periods, and smoothness of finish, which render them models worthy the attention of all students."



COLLEGE NEWS AND FUN.

Mr. Gladstone's bit of a book on the Irish question added \$5,000 to the jingling guineas in his purse.

Honorable Henry Wentworth Monk, M. P., of Ottawa, Canada, wants to build a capital of the earth in Palestine, and he thinks that the job could be done for about \$10,000,000. An irreverent contemporary suggests Monkey as a good name for the proposed capitol.

An Egyptian university at Cairo had an attendance of over 4,000 students in 1896, and ten years ago had a faculty of 231 professors, and an attendance of 7,695 students. Its library contains many old and valuable manuscripts.—*Ex.*

Teacher: "What is velocity?" Pupil: "Velocity is what a man puts a hot plate down with."

"Is your son studying the languages?" inquired the visitor, of Mrs. Bently, whose son George is at college. "Oh, yes," Mrs. Bently replied; "it was only yesterday that he writ home for money to buy a German student lamp and a French clock."—*New York Sun.*

Richard of Bury, tutor of Edward III. and Bishop of Durham, founded the first public library known in England.

The Catacombs of Rome contain the remains of over 6,000,000 persons.

Oliver Wendell Holmes read a poem in Boston recently which he wrote and published anonymously. Three different people have claimed it as their own, and the Doctor says he could name them if he chose to. The difference between Holmes' poems and ours is that no one has ever claimed ours.—*Texas Siftings.*

Eighty-one and a quarter tons of qui-

nine were used in this country during the past year, yet that did not prevent the shake in Charleston.

People run away from a dog that acts as though it might be mad, for fear of hydrophobia, yet they run after a train, and a medical journal declares that deaths from hydrophobia bear but a small proportion to those resulting from the daily, incessant, desperate efforts to catch the train. Moral: Run away from the train and after the dog.

STATES.

A gentle Miss., once seized with chill,
Was feeling very, very Ill.,
When came an Md. for to know
If N. Y. service he could do.

"O.," cried the maid (for scared was she),
"Do you Ind. Tenn. to murder Me.?"

"La.," cried the doctor, "I Kan. save
You from a most untimely grave
If you will let me Conn. your case,
And hang this liver pad in place."

"Am Ia. fool?" the patient cried.

"I cannot Del.," the man replied;

"But no one can be long time Ill.,
Who Tex. a patent blue Mass. pill."

"Ark.!" shrieked the girl, "I'll hear
no Mo,

Your nostrums are N. J.—No go."

[*Utica Observer.*]

When a thief steals five cents he does not think half the dime that some day perhaps old nickle get him.

The famous horse Virgil has just died in Kentucky. All classical scholars who are familiar with Virgil will remember the "pony."

Another year, it is predicted, there will be a Buddhist temple in New York, if

sufficient Hindoosments are offered to build it.—*Boston Herald*.

"Base-ball is now played in Siberia, and when they wish to punish a particularly hardened criminal they make him act as umpire."

The college which has the most graduates in Congress is the University of Virginia; Harvard stands second, and Yale third.

One man in Germany has made and sold 3,000,000 thermometers, and some one remarks, "That's what you might call making money by degrees."

"I understand you are a graduate of Vassar, Miss Lucy. Did you ever study English literature to any extent?" "Oh, mercy, yes; we had Hogg for breakfast, Bacon for dinner, Lamb for tea, and Lover in the evening."

"The Chestnut Gong."—For you he said, "I'd gladly die, I've loved you well and long." "The cruel girl made no reply; she rang a chestnut gong."

Another cold wave said the young man, when his two sisters and three cousins, standing in front of an ice-cream saloon, beckoned him to come over.

There are twenty persons whose gifts to colleges in this country aggregate over \$23,000,000. Three of these rich men—Stephen Girard, John Hopkins, Asa Parker—gave over \$14,000,000.

An academy of arts, the first in South America, is being planned by Dom Pedro, Emperor of Brazil.

He alone can successfully wield power who holds himself ever ready to lay it down.—*Christian Index*.

An old darkey, speaking to a younger "Ward of the Nation" about electric street cars yesterday, said; "Huh, boy, you see how dese white folks dun took

away dem mules' job from em? Well, dat's de way dey is gwine to do the poor darkey. Fust thing you know day'll hab a plow what'll run right along without any nigger; and if dey don't do dat dey'll get some kind er seed what'll grow without any cultivation. Dese white folks is powerful smart, they is."

A bird's-eye view from Trinity spire, New York, would disclose, it is said, 16,000 saloons in sight—12,000 in New York, and 4,000 in Jersey City, Newark, and Paterson.

Prof. in Mechanics: "Give an example of a solid." Student: "A chair." Prof.: "Give some more." Student: "A lot of chairs."

Prof. in Physics: "Did you ever see gravitation?" "No, sir." "Ever smell it?" "No, sir." "Feel it?" "Yes, sir." Prof. (astonished): "When, sir?" "When I fell out of the apple-tree." "Well, how did it feel?" "Very attractive, sir."

Swift said the reason a certain university was a learned place, was that most persons took some learning there, and few brought any away with them, and so it accumulated.

It is said that Yale spent \$14,000 in the college year just past for foot-ball, base-ball, and boating.

One of the college papers tells a story of President Hopkins. The President, meeting on a car a student whose character for sobriety was not good, and whose appearance was an evidence of a recent debauch, approached him and solemnly and reproachfully said, "Been on a drunk." "So have I," was the immediate reply.

The average size of the American family is 5.04. The decimal probably repre-

sents the dude, but the statisticians have got it rather large.

The *Texas University* says :

The editor has found among the papers of the eccentric and lamented Slouch, a notice of whose dissolution accompanied the publication of his poem "Busted"—a dictionary—some of the very unique definitions of which we subjoin. The whole dictionary will be issued in book-form next month.

Bug : See Bed.

Bust : Look at Zero.

Cat : A species of nightingale indigenious to Austin.

Chicken : *Rara avis* ; its anatomy is bones, gutta-percha, and steel springs, hence often called "spring chicken." "The young ones are found only in fresh eggs."

Fly : See rice pudding.

Lying : A popular diversion.

Milk : A liquid used in making milk-punch. A chemical compound of *creta preparata* and *aqua pura*. The genuine article has drift-wood in it.

Musquito : A nocturnal musical instrument, provided with a hand-drill and suction pump. Used by landlords to bite their boarders with.

Policeman : Invisible blue.

Straw : A hollow thing with a drink at one end and a man at the other.

Street-car : A conveyance that has either just passed, or is not going up your way.

Villain : The boarder just ahead of you who gets all the sliced eggs off of the top of the potato salad ; and takes the gizzards of all the fowls unto himself.

The new Williams gymnasium is one of the finest in the country. It is of gray

stone ; on the first floor are the lockers, bath-rooms, base-ball cage and bowling alley ; on the second, various kinds of apparatus ; in the gallery a sawdust track extending around the room.

Farmers say that it is an indication of poor soil when nothing but this yellow frizzy, fox-tail grass will grow. What would they think if they were to see the upper lips of a few of our seniors ?

No lessons are so impressive as those our mistakes teach us.—*Woolsey*.

A young poetess told her "secret to a sweet wild rose." That was imprudent. Soon the sweet wild rose will "blow," and then she'll wish she had kept her secret.

The eight-oared Yale-Harvard race at New London was the best on record. Yale was the victor. Time, 20, 21½ for four miles.

A Buffalo teacher was being examined by the school board. Among the questions asked was this :

"Do you think the world is round or flat ?"

"Well," said the teacher, as he scratched his head in deep thought, "some people think one way and some another, and I'll teach round or flat, just as the parents please."—*Eli Perkins*.

Education has manifestly a double purpose—to aid the individual in gaining a living, and to make his life worth living.—*George Howland*.

Out of the 792,444 words composing the revised Bible 721,672 are the same as found in the revised edition issued in 1611. Only nine per cent.—70,772—have been changed ; 65,508 have been excluded.

In the twelve southern States the number of children attending school in 1880

was 1,439,096, and in this year is 1,838,842. During the same period the yearly appropriations for the support of schools has increased from \$6,415,797 to \$10,389,544. The increase in attendance is 25 per cent., and in appropriation 62 per cent.—a very good showing for six years.

"Get there, Eli!" The by-word "Get there, Eli," originated with Eli Perkins. His frantic trips through ice and snow and flood, often tearing the whole length of a State on a special train to fill a lecture engagement, suggested to the boys the expression.

When a man loses his false teeth, could it be called a gum drop?

Adolphus married Caroline. Adolphus is a noun, because it is the name of a thing. Married is a conjunction, because it joins Adolphus to Caroline. Caroline is a verb, because it governs the noun.

One of the darkey waiters at an Alabama college is a noted hypocrite. He was taken to task lately by the students for some shortcoming, and in the course of the examination one of them asked, "Why, Sam, what are you going to do when you die and go to hell?" "What I does now, sah. Wait on the students," he replied naively.

At the last meeting of the Lime Kiln Club the Committee on the Sciences unanimously recommended such a change in the planetary system as would result in more moonlight nights. The recommendation was adopted, and the club will see that the change is made.

One hundred thousand persons, including eight hundred Japanese, are pursuing the Chautauqua course.—*Ex.*

We learn from good authority that in the United States every 200th man takes

a college course; in Germany, every 213th; in England, every 500th; and in Scotland, every 615th.—*Ex.*

There are sixty thousand volumes in the Boston State Library, and not one novel among them.

The sharp statistician of Public Opinion has discovered that in this country the distinctively scientific schools number 92; manual schools, 255; medical colleges, 145; institutions for the higher education of women, 236; law schools, 57. There are 370 universities and colleges in the United States, with 65,522 students in attendance.

Junior (asks professor a very profound question). Prof.: "Mr. W., a fool can ask a question that two wise men could not answer." Junior: "Then I suppose that's why so many of us flunk."—*Ex.*

A German went into a restaurant, and as he took his seat, an Irish waiter came up and bowed politely. "*Wie geht's?*" said the German, also bowing politely. "Wheat cakes!" shouted the waiter, mistaking the salutation for an order. "*Nein, nein!*" said the German. "Nine!" said the waiter, "You'll be lucky if you get three."

GOOD VOCAL METHOD.—An attachee of this office recently heard a skilled vocalist sing "Wait Till the Clouds Roll By." She rendered it:

"Wah tah the claw raw baw, Jawy,
Wah taw the claw raw baw,
Jawy, maw aw traw law wah,
Waw taw the claw raw baw."

And then she smiled so sweetly and broadly over the well-merited applause that the corners of her mouth had a sociable on the back of her head.

SELECTIONS.

"M. Bréal, a French writer on educational subjects, remarks in his essay on the method of acquiring foreign languages, that when a person goes to a foreign country to learn the language, he rarely succeeds; but if he goes to pursue some particular profession or business he learns the language rapidly and thoroughly—first the language of that business, then the language of ordinary intercourse, and so on, step by step, in the order of nature. Thus it is the natural method that prevails."—*Scientific Monthly*.

We have reproduced the above chiefly because these facts of practical experience coincide so completely with the theory of the Professor of Modern Languages at this institution.

He proceeds on the principle that all his pupils are babies, as regards their knowledge of French and German at least, and teaches them first the words needed in the class-room, then those needed in ordinary conversation, and afterwards introduces them to the higher classics; and thus in the highest degree combines pleasure and profit. At least so think the students, and we think results have hitherto verified their opinions.—ED.

THE INDIAN EMPIRE.—There are few who adequately realize the vastness of the British dominion in the East. The total population is about 250,000,000, of which at least 180,000,000 are under the direct government of the Crown, while the remainder, nominally under independent sovereigns, are yet practically under British control. A traveller arriving at Kurrachi, the proposed terminus of the mail route by sea or land from

Europe, would take four days, travelling by railway at an average speed of twenty miles an hour day and night, to reach Calcutta. The railway journey now from Bombay to Calcutta occupies two days and three nights. The use of the English language is rapidly increasing all over India.

The matriculation examination of the Indian universities is in English, so that every candidate must be able to read that language, and thousands of young men every year appear at these examinations. It is becoming the *lingua franca* of the educated class all over the country, and it must be used more and more in schools, colleges, courts of justice and all public affairs, so as to be the supreme tongue, to which all the native languages and dialects must be secondary. So far as the press is concerned, the demand for English books will be enormous at no distant period.—*Leisure Hour*.

THE "NOBLE FOREHEAD" FALLACY.—It is popularly supposed that the high forehead is essential to a good brain, and intellectual superiority is usually associated with the conception of a "two-storied brow." Dr. William H. Mays ably combats this idea in the *Western Lancet*. He says:

"The size of the forehead depends much on the line of growth of the hair that limits it. A man may have what is called a low forehead; but if the hair could be removed to the height of four or five inches, the same individual would present as fine a specimen of the traditional 'noble forehead' as could be wished, a perfect 'dome of thought,'

particularly if the frontal sinuses happened to be large or protuberant. Again, a low forehead has ever been held a sign of beauty in woman, and has certainly never been regarded as an impeachment of her mental capacity. The truth is, the front part of the brain has very little to do with the intellectual process. It is the posterior lobes of the brain with which the higher faculties of the mind are associated. Gower assigns to the frontal lobes, excepting their lower and hinder portions, a negative position as regards psychical importance. Only man possesses posterior or occipital lobes; they are the latest achievements in the long line of cerebral development. In the higher apes they may be found in a very rudimentary condition; the lower mammals possess frontal or anterior lobes only. In the lower savages, and in congenital idiots, the occipital lobes are often ill-developed, approaching the brute type, giving a flattened appearance to the back of the head. In the Stockton Asylum are several interesting idiots, some of whom, while possessing quite respectable foreheads, show a striking deficiency of back head. The neck and back of the head are in one line, and it is worth remarking what a foolish appearance such a contour gives an individual. When you see a lack of the rounded sweep or projection of the back of the head above the neck, you will find with it a low order of intellect. The idea that a high forehead is, taken alone, the index of mental superiority is as baseless as any of the exploded propositions of phrenology, with which pseudo-science it deserves to be classed."

LONDON LEADS THE WORLD.—London, with the single exception, possibly, of Rome, is the only capital in Europe where the festivities of a court are to be enjoyed. Berlin was never very gay, and now that the Emperor and Empress have become so very old the social elements of court life have become ex-

tremely primitive as well as formal and restricted. The haughty aristocracy of Vienna decline to receive at their entertainments any foreigner below the rank of a prince, even the attachés of the different legations having but a dismal time of it. Since France became a republic the social prestige of Paris has wholly vanished.

Spain and Portugal are too far out of the beaten track, and especially the latter, and the stiff etiquette pervading at both courts renders them anything but popular. Since King Humbert ascended the throne of Italy he and his fair wife have done much to make Rome a brilliant and attractive social center. But it is now an undoubted fact that London, during the season, has taken the place which was occupied under the second empire by Paris in the affections of society lovers on both sides of the Atlantic.

A CURIOUS BOOK.—The most curious book in the world is one that is neither written nor printed. Every letter of the text is cut into the leaf, and as the alternate leaves are of blue paper, it is as easily read as the best print. The labor required and the patience necessary to cut each letter may be imagined. The work is so perfect that it seems as though done by machinery, but every character was made by hand. The book is entitled: "The Passion of Christ," and is now in a museum in France.—*Ex.*

A SWEET POSY.—Take two moss rosebuds, half open, a spray of rosemary, and half a dozen of the flower heads of lavender, to which add a cluster or two of mignonette, three old clove carnations, a small bunch of white jasmine, and a few

leaves of the sweet scented verbena (*Aloysia citriodora*). If to the above you add a half opened old 'provence or cabbage rose, so much the better; and the result will be a sweet posy that a duchess might like to have near her, and which, if tastefully put together, will delight the eyes as well as the nose. This sort of sweet posy was far more common in the days of our great-grandmothers than now. You will notice how careful the late R. Caldecott was to give his sweetest of early eighteenth century maids a dainty little posy to sniff at as they cross their tiny feet and sit demurely in the fine old Chippendale chairs he must have liked, or he would not have drawn them so well.

CARNEGIE'S CASTLE.—Andrew Carnegie is building on the summit of the

Alleghanies, near Cresson Springs, a house, or castle, which will cost \$1,000,000. The entire walls will be built up altogether of the undressed surface stone, which is to be found on the place, and they are not to show in any place a single mark of the chisel or hammer. Mr. Carnegie's orders are positive on this point, he having expressed a wish to have as far as possible even the moss on the rocks used in the walls undisturbed.

Flower in the crannied wall,
I pluck you out of the crannies:—
Hold you here, root and all, in my
hand.
Little flower—but if I could under-
stand
What you are, root and all, and all in
all,
I should know what God and man is.
[Tennyson.]

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